

opened Pleasant Travel Service in Point Pleasant, New Jersey. Three years later, they moved their four children and the business to Southern California to better serve clients wishing to visit Hawaii.

The company is now a limited liability corporation with more than 1,700 employees and revenues exceeding \$400 million. Their four children—Brian and Christine, and twins Gary and Glenn—are all executives in the company. Ed is chairman and chief executive officer of Pleasant Holidays, L.L.C., and Lynn serves as vice chairperson. Lynn, a graphics artist who did picture cells for Disney's animated classic "Peter Pan," oversees the development of major promotions, ad campaigns and brochures, and is actively involved with the decoration and renovation of the company's hotels.

The company has expanded to serve Mexico, Tahiti, Japan and other destinations in the Orient, in addition to the ownership of several hotels in Hawaii.

In 1987, Ed and Lynn formed the Pleasant Hawaiian Holidays Foundation to grant annual scholarships and awards to benefit Hawaiian residents. The non-profit Hogan Family Foundation, founded in 1998, is dedicated to promoting an understanding of the importance of travel and tourism "by creating and operating educational, humanitarian, and civic-minded programs that encourage meaningful communication between persons of all cultures."

With the formation of the Travel and Tourism Institute, the Ed and Lynn Hogan Program in Travel and Tourism is funded at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles to prepare college students for executive careers in the travel industry.

Ed and Lynn volunteer for numerous other non-profit organizations focused on health care, child abuse and education, and sit on several boards, and have been honored frequently for their efforts.

Not surprisingly, they also have been honored extensively by the tourism industry and the government and people of Hawaii. A few highlights: In 1993, Ed and Lynn were inducted into the American Society of Travel Agents' "Hall of Fame," the travel industry's highest honor. In 1995, Ed served as a delegate to the first White House Conference on Travel and Tourism. Lynn has been named to Working Woman magazine's top 500 list of female executives in the United States for the past five years, number 53 in 1998 and number 34 this year.

In their spare time, Ed and Lynn train and show their Arabian horses, play in travel industry and celebrity golf tournaments, and fawn over their two grandchildren, Michael and Shalyn.

Mr. Speaker, Ed and Lynn Hogan are loving people who are dedicated to their profession, their community, their family and each other. I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in congratulating them on a lifetime of success together in each of those areas as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN INDIA CONTINUES

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, there has been a disturbing pattern of oppression of Christians and other religious minorities in India. This persecution of Christians in India continues. It has been going on steadily since Christmas 1998, with occasional flare-ups before that, as exemplified by one incident when the state police used unnecessary and overwhelming force to stop a Christian religious festival.

The animosity towards Christians and other religious minorities in India is well known. High-ranking officials of India's governing coalition have said openly that everyone who lives in India must either be Hindu or be subservient to Hinduism. They have called for nationalization of the Christian churches in India, severing them from the denominations to which they belong.

Since the current wave of violence exploded on Christmas 1998, more than two and a half years ago, Christian churches have been burned, and assaults have been carried out on priests and nuns.

Mr. Speaker, that is the state of religious freedom in India. The Indian government has much work in front of it. It is time for India to stop trampling the rights of minorities and begin protecting religious freedom, civil liberties, human rights, and the other important rights that are the mark of a true democratic state.

### 54TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to join with the people of India and the Indian-American community to commemorate India's Independence Day. The 54th anniversary of India's Independence will actually occur on August 15th, while Congress is in recess, so I wanted to take this opportunity tonight, before we adjourn, to mark this important occasion before my colleagues in this House and the American people.

Last month, Americans celebrated the Fourth of July. For a billion people in India, one-sixth of the human race, the 15th of August holds the same significance. I am proud to extend my congratulations to the people of India, and to the sons and daughters of India who have come to the United States, enriching American society in so many ways.

On August 15, 1947, the people of India finally gained their independence from Britain, following a long and determined struggle that continues to inspire the world. In his stirring "midnight hour" speech, India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, set the tone for the newly established Republic, a Republic

devoted to the principles of democracy and secularism. In more than half a century since then, India has stuck to the path of free and fair elections, a multi-party political system and the orderly transfer of power from one government to its successor.

India continues to grapple with the challenges of delivering broad-based economic development to a large and growing population. India has sought to provide full rights and representation to its many ethnic, religious and linguistic communities. And India seeks to be a force for stability and cooperation in the strategically vital South Asia region. In all of these respects, India stands out as a model for other Asian nations, and developing countries everywhere, to follow.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most difficult situations for a democracy is their relationships with their neighbors, especially if they do not share the same democratic ideals. India has struggled to establish a peaceful cooperation with the nation of Pakistan. As you know, Pakistan has made a transition from the thin guise of democracy to an outright military state.

Despite this fact, India has made repeated efforts to establish peaceful and economically prosperous relations with Pakistan.

Evidence of this can be found in India's Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee extending the hand of friendship to Pakistan President Musharraf. This is the latest act of good faith by India even though Pakistan has consistently reverted in their promises to uphold their end in recent years. In February of 1999 India and Pakistan signed the Lahore Declaration under which they pledged to establish a procedure for resolving their differences through bilateral negotiations. Pakistan subsequently betrayed this when their forces crossed the Line of Control in Kashmir, resulting in the loss of hundreds of lives and international condemnation. Pakistan also broke the latest cease-fire initiated by India, yet Vajpayee still decided to invite Musharraf to a summit this past month. While the summit collapsed, Vajpayee has vowed to continue dialogue to try to bring about peace with India's neighbor.

India is of utmost importance to the United States, not only because of our shared principles, but also because of India's strategic importance. They have showed the Western World time and time again that they serve as a vital stabilizing force in the South Asian region. India has committed itself both politically and economically with the United States. In March of 2000, our countries participated in the U.S.-India Summit in New Delhi, where a Vision Statement was crafted. This statement committed both countries to fight against terrorism, prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, expand trade, and a variety of other important issues. To this day, India continues to reduce barriers to trade, and bilateral trade has grown from less than \$5 billion in 1993 to over \$15 billion in 2000. India has not just passed the litmus test of foreign governments, but they have passed the much harder test of Western corporations that look for a profitable environment. There are hundreds of U.S. companies investing in India: AT&T, Citicorp, Morgan Stanley, Ford Motor Company, and IBM just to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise on behalf of the Indian-Americans in my